**GATEWAY ARCH EAST CHAPTER NEWSLETTER**

February 2016

[http://gatewaymusicteachers.org](http://www.gatewaymusicteachers.org/)  Illinois State Music Teachers Association

President: [LeAnn Halvorson](mailto:halvorso@htc.net?subject=President); Vice President/Programs: Mary Anderson; Secretary: Stephanie Owen; Treasurer: Karen Koch

UPCOMING EVENTS (See details below)

Sat/Sun, Feb 13-14 AIM Level 3-12 Theory Exams at SWIC; TBA at SIUE

Wed, Mar 9 AIM Repertoire Forms due.

Wed, Mar 16 AIM Levels 1-12 Performance Exam Registrations due.

Fri, Mar 18 GAE Meeting 10 AM, Miller Music. “Imagery and Artistry” by Laureen DiBisceglie

SURVEY TO HELP WITH UPCOMING YEAR PLANS (from Karen Koch)

It may seem early to be thinking about this, but President LeAnn Halvorson and current VP/Program Chair Mary Anderson are hoping to get a head start on next year’s planning. Please help out in this process by completing the 2-question survey page at the end of this newsletter. It is your opportunity to express what you may have told the person sitting next to you, but did not yet share with members who have accepted the responsibility to help with making GAE a helpful, worthwhile organization.

By the way, if you have any need to create a survey for your parents or in some other capacity, be aware that SurveyMonkey.com is a free source of templates for creating your own surveys. The attached one for GAE was a first attempt, and was created in approximately 30 minutes, including the instructional how-to video. So how did I do? Well I couldn’t figure out exactly how to include it in this email rather than sending separately, so I had to re-copy parts of it for this format. It would have been easy to simply email it by individually entering email addresses. However that would leave out the people who need hard copies of our newsletters. At any rate, you may find SurveyMonkey.com to be useful.

SCHUBERTIAD: ARTISTIC BEAUTY, MUSICAL VARIETY, FOOD!

The January 15 meeting completely lived up to its billing as a musical treat. The event included a short guided tour of the Schmidt Art Gallery exhibits at SWIC, musical perfomances, and a salad luncheon/meeting, but the musical performances were the main attraction, and they did not disappoint. Chairman Heidi Shepherd introduced the opening performance by Dr. Catherine Burge and her student with a clarinet duet arrangement of a Bach piece and a clarinet/piano performance. Joan Witte performed music enhanced by imagery she described from a summer trip to the Smoky Mountains. Amy Jo Sawyer performed two brand new original compositions and asked the audience to suggest AIM levels for each. Finally Dr. Stephanie Owen and Gill Cerbin recreated a Rachmaninoff piano duo.

TUERCK CONCERTO COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

Students 11th grade and younger who play strings, woodwind, brass, piano, harp, or percussion are invited to audition for the annual Tuerck Concerto Competition sponsored by the Belleville Philharmonic Society. Applications are due by February 28, and the competition will be held on March 12th. The first place winners will perform at a December concert and receive a cash prize. Application forms and additional information are available [here](bellevillephilharmonic.org).

TIDBITS

**Dr Stephanie Owen** and **Gill Cerbin** will be giving a Rachmaninoff Recital on May 21st at 7pm at the Belleville Philharmonic Hall in Belleville.  Works will include movements from Rachmaninoff's first and second 2-piano suites Opus 5 and Opus 17, as well as his piano duets Six morceaux Opus 11.  Violin students of Philip Tinge will also play a selection of pieces.  Coffee and cheesecake will be served.This is a fundraiser for the Belleville Philharmonic, and tickets will be $10. All teachers and students are welcome to attend.

Because there is no meeting this month, there was no call for news for this issue and it is relatively short but there were items with time value. If you have news that you would like to include for next month’s newsletter, forward it to [kk@musicedmarket.com](mailto:kk@musicedmarket.com) .

BONUS #1 MUSIC ED CONNECT (from Karen Koch)

If you would love to attend a national conference but haven’t had the time/money to do so, you might like to consider participating in an online piano teachers’ conference that comes to you via the internet. Last week I spent a few hours on four consecutive days “attending” the MusicEdConnect online conference. The presenters were nationally known, and the sessions were live, but I can also tune in again to the archived sessions through the end of 2016. It’s not too late to join in, if you are interested in purchasing a Replay Pass. Technology is just one of many subjects covered—piano literature, teaching games, the future of piano lessons, business ideas, etc. You can attend while wearing your pajamas, exercising, checking email, or taking notes. (I actually did all of those and finished with great new ideas and teaching refreshment!). Here is [a list of topics and presenters](http://musicedconnect.com/2016-session-preview), Registration for a Replay Pass info is [here](http://musicedconnect.com/register-2). The originator and coordinator of this virtual conference is Michelle Sisler of Keys to Imagination. She is a noted tech expert who has presented tech topics throughout the USA for MTNA and the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, to name a few.

BONUS #2 CLAVINOVA FESTIVAL REPORT (from LeAnn Halvorson)

Twenty six students of Debbie Meier and LeAnn Halvorson received t-shirts, certificates and a goodie bag containing treats, a lanyard, pen and sunglasses along with a chance to win a Yamaha digital keyboard when they participated in the Clavinova Festival on December 12 in Waterloo. Benjamin Thomas, student of Deborah Meier was the lucky winner. He is nine years old and has been studying piano at Holy Cross Lutheran School with Mrs. Meier for about 2 years. Yamaha and Piano Distributors sponsored the event under the direction Steve Trawford. The Festival was held in conjunction with a Christmas Tree Walk in Waterloo, and included a fund raising event for MusicLink which raised over $900 from pledges to benefit deserving Illinois music students.

BONUS #3 WISDOM (from Facebook post)

In answer to a Facebook question, “Why are you glad your mom kept you in piano?” this answer appeared from [Rani Ross](https://www.facebook.com/rani.ross.3" \t "_blank) on February 6, 2016. Piano parents might appreciate seeing it if they are experiencing “wanna quit” sentiments!

*My piano is a loyal friend. Silently and without demand it waits for me to sit before its keys and play. When I do, it rewards me with fluttery arpeggios and beautiful melodies. After awhile, I close its lid and walk away, feeling completely peaceful.   
I hated practicing. I hated performing even more. But oh how I love to be able to find my friend every now and again. My parents gave me a lifelong gift when they provided me with lessons. I'm beyond grateful.*

**NEXT PAGE: PROGRAM OPINION SURVEY**

**MEMBER PROGRAM OPINION SURVEY (PLEASE REPLY!)**

In order to enhance the benefits of GAE for members, the officers (current and future!) will very much appreciate it if you take a few moments to contribute your ideas and opinions in this survey. If you did not attend a particular program, use N/A.

Name: (optional)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**1) Review this year’s programs:** Please "grade" the programs you attended this year.

Express yourself and share ideas here. Do you know of an interesting presenter?

Please specify or elaborate on your choices if you wish’

**3 (Outstanding) 2 (Helpful;enjoyed) 1 (Didn'tparticularly meet my interests)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Opening Potluck and Idea Sharing

\_\_\_\_\_ Fred Karpoff Workshop with St. Louis MTA and Piano Teachers Roundtable

\_\_\_\_\_ "Practice Techniques" /Dr. Huei Li Chin

\_\_\_\_\_ Skype Presentation"Creating Artists from the Very First Lesson"/Bonnie Blanchard

\_\_\_\_\_ Schubertiad/GalleyTour/Luncheon

Still to come:

"Imagery and Artistry"/LaureenDiBisceglie

"Modern Music Gems for the 21st Century PianoTeacher/" Annette Burkhart

Any additional comments?

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**2) Which program types are of interest to you in the future?** This will help in the planning process. Check all that apply.

Master Class

Clinician Presentation

Lecture/Recital by Member

Lecture/Recital by Other Artists

Round Table Discussion/Sharing

AIM Participation Topics

Repertoire Suggestions

Business/Tax/Studio Policy Advice

Music History

Music Theory

Piano Technique

Church Musicianship (Choir, Organist, etc.)

Other ideas?

Return: [kk@musicedmarket.com](mailto:kk@musicedmarket.com) or Mary Anderson, 342 N 43rd ST, Belleville IL 62226.

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